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Dated: March 15, 2004

Signature: Christa Carter

(Christa Carter)

Docket No.: 514362000100  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Roger de la TORRE et al.

Application No.: 09/816,850

Art Unit: 3743

Filed: March 23, 2001

Examiner: K. Odland

For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR USE IN  
MINIMALLY INVASIVE PLACEMENT OF  
INTRAGASTRIC DEVICES

**AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

MS Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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MAR 19 2004  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

This is in response to the non-final Office Action dated December 17, 2003 (Paper No. 15), for which a response was due by March 17, 2004. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

**Amendments to the Specification** are reflected on page 3 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page 6 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 10 of this paper.